

**METHOD OF DETERMINING RELATIVE Z-ORDERING IN AN  
IMAGE AND METHOD OF USING SAME**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In one embodiment according to the present invention, relative z-ordering of segments  
5 in a digital image is determined. A method comprises forward and backward motion  
matching of image regions to determine overlap, followed by the creation of relationships  
(e.g., pairwise relationships) between regions and comparing the result with the original  
image to determine the relative z-ordering.

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